

...to preserve and enhance water quality in the Los Angeles Region for the benefit of present and future generations...

# Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board Water Bulletin

Number 8/2003

***SUBJECT: 465<sup>th</sup> LARWQCB Board Meeting (August 7, 2003)***

**State of California  
Los Angeles Regional Water  
Quality Control Board  
(LARWQCB)**

320 West 4<sup>th</sup> Street  
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<http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/rwqcb4/>

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**Executive Officer**

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**Santa Clara River:**

**Board Approves Nutrient Regulations for Santa Clara River**

The Board approved a new water quality regulation, known as a Total Maximum Daily Load, or TMDL, to reduce nitrogen compounds in the Santa Clara River. Excessive nitrogen compounds can be toxic to fish, cause algal blooms, scum, odors, and foam. The TMDL focuses on reducing the sources of nitrogen from publicly owned treatment works. The TMDL also sets forth special studies to determine site specific objectives for nitrogen, to assess other potential sources of nitrogen, and to better assess how aquatic life conditions are impaired within the Santa Clara River Watershed. The Board's action will protect aquatic and wildlife habitat, groundwater recharge, and recreational uses of the river.

**Marina del Rey:**

**Board Approves New Bacteria Regulations for Marina del Rey**

The Board approved a new water quality regulation, known as a Total Maximum Daily Load, or TMDL, to reduce bacterial contamination at Mothers' Beach and in the back basins of Marina del Rey Harbor. Swimming and recreating in waters with elevated bacteria densities has long been associated with adverse health effects. The Regional Board's goal in adopting the TMDL is to reduce the risk of illness associated with recreating in marine waters contaminated with bacteria. The TMDL involves holding jurisdictions within the Marina del Rey watershed jointly accountable for discharges of bacteria from their storm drains, and encourages the use of an integrated water resources approach to prevent these discharges. In addition, the TMDL prohibits non-point source contributions of bacteria from marina activities such as waste disposal from boats, boat deck and slip washing, restaurant washouts, etc. The TMDL requires extensive monitoring throughout Marina del Rey and a detailed investigation of nonpoint sources of bacteria such as boating activities and birds.

**Region Wide:**

**Board Approves New General Permit for Construction and other Projects**

The Board approved a general permit for discharges of groundwater to surface water from projects such as construction, groundwater cleanup, well drilling, and subterranean seepage dewatering. General permits enable Regional Board staff to expedite the issuance of permit requirements and simplify the application process for dischargers with similar types of operations. The new general permit combines two existing general permits, includes strict standards for toxic chemicals and emerging chemicals, such as perchlorate, and includes special provisions for creekside dewatering.

**Consent Calendar:**

Additional actions to improve water quality were taken by the Board without discussion, as items adopted under the consent calendar. The meeting agenda, including consent items, can be viewed at <http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/rwqcb4/html/meetings/meetings.html>

**Next LARWQCB Board Meeting**

The 466<sup>th</sup> meeting of the LARWQCB will be held at 9:00am on September 11, 2003 at the City of Simi Valley Council Chambers, 2929 Tapo Canyon Road, Simi Valley, CA. The agenda can be viewed at: <http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/rwqcb4/html/meetings/meetings.html>